



The Catholic Light

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Weekly E-Newsletter

November 14, 2024

**Rosary Rally to take place Saturday at
Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton**

ROSARY RALLY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

November 16, 2024



Make a day of it! Lots of **FREE** activities to choose from!



10:30AM - 12:00PM **Sacrament of Reconciliation**
Cathedral of St. Peter



11:30AM - 1:30PM **Book signing with Fr. Willy Raymond, CSC**
The Family that Prays Together Stays Together
Heaven & Earth Gift Shop & Cafe

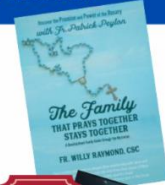


11:30AM - 12:45PM **Movie screening**
PRAY: The Story of Patrick Peyton
Diocesan Pastoral Center

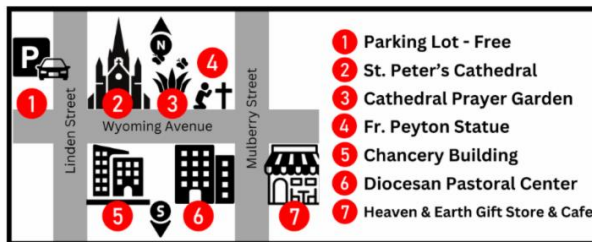
Additional Screening
4:00PM



12:15PM - 12:45PM **Mary Knew No Sin talk with Fr. Tudgay**
The Immaculate Conception & Artwork
Cathedral of St. Peter



1:30PM ROSARY RALLY
Cathedral of St. Peter



10:30AM-5:00PM

Donuts, Hot Dogs, Cider
Diocesan Pastoral Center

Cathedral Prayer Garden
Fr. Peyton Memorial Statue

1949 Rosary Rally Display
Diocesan Pastoral Center

For more information visit scrantonprays.com



"The family that prays together stays together" has been an international Catholic catchphrase for decades.

It owes its origin to the late Father Patrick Peyton, a priest of the Congregation of Holy Cross, and longtime promoter of the family rosary.

This weekend, the Diocese of Scranton will celebrate Father Peyton's legacy with a large-scale Rosary Rally in downtown Scranton on Saturday, Nov. 16, 2024.

The festivities will be spread throughout the 300- and 400-blocks of Wyoming Avenue beginning at 10:30 a.m.

The highlight of the Nov. 16 Rosary Rally in Scranton will begin at 1:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter. Together, families will recite the rosary, and there will be inspiring talks, music and Eucharistic Adoration.

The reason for this year's celebration is 2024 marks the 75th anniversary of Father Peyton's first Rosary Rally in the United States, which was held in Scranton, and drew an estimated 50,000 people.

[Click Here to Read the Full Story from The Catholic Light](#)

**One bead at a time: Volunteers craft
328,250 rosaries to spread hope and
faith**



A total of 328,250 rosaries and counting.

That is the astounding number of rosaries that a small group in Luzerne County has created over the last several decades.

Twice a month, the volunteers meet at Saint John the Baptist Parish in Larksville to assemble each rosary by hand. Each is carefully crafted, using beads, wire, and clasps, and then sent to individuals in need – whether that be people facing illness, suffering, or those who simply seek to deepen their faith.

Over the last three decades, a parish volunteer group in Luzerne County has made nearly 330,000 rosaries by hand.

“I just love the Blessed Mother, and I’ll do anything for her. Making the rosaries just gives you such great satisfaction,” Barbara Morris said.

Morris began making rosaries more than thirty years ago at the former Saint Hedwig Church in Edwardsville. She says the rosary-making effort that has now moved to Saint John’s Church is a beautiful and peaceful way to serve others.

“The Blessed Mother needs us to do her work, and we just love doing it,” she added.

[Click Here to Read the Full Story from The Catholic Light](#)

Lackawanna County parish launches new clothing closet to support community

*Parish aided by Social Justice Grant from 2024
Catholic Ministries Appeal*



When Amy Hassaj recently welcomed a man to Christ the King's new clothing closet, she expected he might be looking for some new pants or a winter coat.

Instead, his request was much simpler.

“He looked through everything and said, ‘I just need two bars of soap,’” Hassaj recalled.

Touched by how deep his need was, and how something so simple can be a luxury for someone, Hassaj volunteers her time twice a month to be a part of her parish’s newest social justice outreach program.

“It is nice to be able to help out and give back to the community that I grew up in and was always so good to me,” she said. “I was baptized here and had all my sacraments here, so it just always has been a very special place and as an adult it’s nice to give back.”

Earlier this year, Christ the King Parish in Archbald opened its new “Community Closet” to share new and gently used clothing items, toiletries, and household items with neighbors in need. The items have all been purchased or donated by parishioners and local community members.

“Most people don’t think there are needy people in this community, but when you work this, you can see it,” volunteer Judy Rudalavage explained. “We are open to anyone.”

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Wyalusing parish provides donation to area food pantry



Parishioners from Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Bradford County have seen first-hand the need that exists in their community.

Many currently volunteer at the Helping Hands Food Pantry, located at 137 Main Street, Wyalusing.

Currently, the pantry is distributing 240 food bags every weekend throughout the school year in its backpack program. In addition to the backpack program, the agency also serves 80 families every week by distributing bags of pre-packaged groceries – including eggs, milk, meat, canned goods, bread and other staples.

The Ministry of Mercy Committee at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish received a Social Justice Grant from the 2024 Catholic Ministries Appeal to help the food pantry continue its efforts.

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Turn your PA tax dollars into scholarships for Catholic School students

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| Step 1 Sign-Up | Step 2 Donate | Step 3 Claim Your Credit |
|---|---|---|
| Determine your current year PA State Income tax liability, found on Line 12 of the PA-40 form. Then sign the one-page pledge form with the amount of your contribution. | Once you receive your approval for the tax credit, you will send in the pledge amount, a minimum of just 10% of your tax liability. | After your contribution is made, you will receive a K-1 tax form to file with your taxes, providing you with a 90% tax credit on the contribution you made. |

After having watched his older brother attend Holy Cross High School, Christopher Rotell-Tierney always knew he wanted to attend the Dunmore school as well.

“I love the environment. Everyone cares about each other. The faculty genuinely cares about us, not just our academics,” he said.

Now in his senior year, Rotell-Tierney is thankful for scholarship money that has made his dream a reality.

“Our world today is very expensive wherever you turn and the scholarships I have received have helped me not only attend HCHS but has softened the financial blow of everyday life,” he added.

For many students, receiving a scholarship or financial aid makes a Catholic school education possible.

That is why the Diocese of Scranton recently partnered with RedefinED, a company that has proven success in maximizing Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) contributions.

The EITC program is a Pennsylvania initiative that allows both individuals and businesses to direct their state income tax money to benefit students instead of sending that funding to Harrisburg.

“Not only can it change the lives of students, but it can help make Catholic schools more financially sound, by having more dollars and funding the gap that exists between what they charge (in tuition) and what it actually costs,” Alyse Maslonik, founder and CEO of RedefinED, explained.

[Click Here to Read the Full Story from The Catholic Light](#)

Catholic elementary students explore Vocations: Diocesan director talks faith, service, and God's calling



In a classroom inside Saint Mary of Mount Carmel School in Dunmore, seventh graders listened attentively as Father Alex Roche, Diocesan Secretary of Clergy Formation, shared stories of his journey to the priesthood.

When one student asked what the best part of being a priest was, Father Alex quickly responded it was being with them and being able to talk about God.

“Sometimes, the best thing that you can do for a kid is to remind them that God loves them, and he has a plan for them,” Father Alex later told *The Catholic Light*.

For many years, staff from the Diocesan Vocations Office has visited Catholic high schools to meet with students that might have an interest in the priesthood or religious life.

Father Alex is now also making it a priority to visit Catholic elementary schools to talk to younger students about prayer, discerning God’s call and recognizing the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

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Bishop celebrates Inauguration Liturgy at Marywood University



The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, celebrated an Inauguration Liturgy on Nov. 8, 2024, as Marywood University officially installed its 13th President, Lisa A. Lori, J.D.

The Mass took place at the Sette LaVerghetta Center for Performing Arts on campus. During his homily, Bishop Bambera said that, as a Catholic university, Marywood must continue to fulfill the mission of Jesus in an authentic manner.

“It is hardly by accident that the values and attitudes that are so integral to Jesus’ mission reflect both the mission and core values of Marywood University,” Bishop Bambera said. “As a Catholic university founded by the Congregation of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary 109 years ago, Marywood is rooted in the Catholic intellectual tradition and promotes not only academic excellence but leadership in service to others. It prepares women and men to live responsibly in and for our world And Marywood seeks to achieve this noble end as a result of those values that are integral to its very existence: its Catholic identity; its respect for the dignity of the human person and for the blessings of creation; its commitment to the empowerment of students to achieve their full potential; its belief in the value of service and social responsibility; and its enduring pursuit of excellence.”

[Click Here to Watch a Short Video from CTV: Catholic Television from the Inauguration Mass](#)

**Bishops focus on migration, human dignity
and creation on Day 2 of Assembly's public
sessions**



The U.S. bishops wrapped up the second day of public sessions for their annual fall assembly in Baltimore with a focus on three major issues: migration, the dignity of the human person and care for creation in light of the church's evangelizing mission.

One of the most significant discussions Nov. 13 took place just before the bishops concluded that afternoon, as Bishop Mark J. Seitz of El Paso, chair of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Migration, encouraged his brother bishops and their priests to speak loudly and as one on the issue of migration, especially in light of the recent rhetoric from public figures.

The lay faithful have a "real hunger ... for leadership from their priests and bishops alike on this issue," Bishop Seitz said, citing recent focus groups administered by the USCCB.

[Click Here to Read the Full Story from Our Sunday Visitor](#)

Vatican's World Day of the Poor will feature medical care, lunch with pope



Before Pope Francis presides over Mass Nov. 17 for the World Day of the Poor, he will bless 13 keys to represent the 13 new houses he has pledged to pay for in Syria during the Holy Year 2025, the Vatican said.

The Famvin Homeless Alliance, a network of religious orders and charitable organizations inspired by St. Vincent de Paul, said the 13 keys also represent the 13 countries where they will build houses for the homeless. The countries are: Australia, Brazil, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chile, Costa Rica, Italy, Tonga, Senegal, Syria, Tanzania, United Kingdom and Ukraine.

The “13 Houses Campaign” is an homage to St. Vincent de Paul and his decision in 1643 to use an endowment from French King Louis XIII to build 13 small houses near the Vincentian headquarters in Paris to care for abandoned children.

Pope Francis began the annual celebration of the World Day of the Poor in 2017. Traditionally, it has included Mass, lunch with Pope Francis and more medical care for the poor at the clinic run by the Dicastery for the Service of Charity.

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Support the 2024 Catholic Ministries Appeal!

Sharing the Love of Christ in our Community

The Catholic Light
DIOCESE OF SCRANTON
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Diocese to host inspiring Rosary Rally on Nov. 16 at Cathedral of Saint Peter

SCRANTON — In a world filled with noise and distractions, Nancy Layo finds peace and comfort in praying the rosary. "I feel like I'm holding onto Mary's hand when I'm praying the rosary," she says. "The same is true for Ann Laird. The same, it has provided a sense of calm, a sense of purpose, and I feel like I'm connected to God through Mary." Laird added. "Through the Blessed Mother, who are parishioners and members of the church, we can get together and pray is a place."

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